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N O R T H V I E T N A M

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'WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATORS' SEE DAMAGE IN HAIPHONG AREA

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0430 GMT 7 Aug 72 S

[Article by Hoang Tuan Nha: "A Close Look at Nixon's Crimes in Haiphong"]

[Text] A trip to Phuc Loc marked the second day of the visit to the Haiphong area by the delegation investigating U.S. war crimes in Indochina. Phuc Loc was the site of a night U.S. B-52 raid against a small village that was soundly asleep. This extremely barbarous and villainous massacre took place at 0200 on 16 April in Phuc Loc, 15 kms from Haiphong. It occurred at the same time as a raid on Hong Bang ward inside Haiphong. In Phuc Loc the U.S. aggressors killed 63 persons and wounded 61. In Hong Bang ward: 244 persons were killed and 513 others wounded, mostly women and children.

In Phuc Loc, the delegation visited old Mr Tran Van Thuc's family, which had had 17 members. The U.S. aggressors killed 11 of his family members, including his son, his 4-months pregnant daughter-in-law and his nieces and nephews. Mr Thuc denounced this towering crime to the delegation.

The second family visited by the delegation was sister Pham Thi Hoan's family. According to her account, while all her family members were soundly asleep bombs exploded loudly throughout the village. A bomb hit her home, throwing her parents, her husband, her younger brothers and sisters and her oldest child to various corners of the garden. Five of eight family members were killed. She told members of the delegation: We are peasants doing agricultural work in our ricefields. The barbarous U.S. aggressors dropped bombs to kill our compatriots and completely destroyed our village. Some of our compatriots have lost everything except the clothes they were wearing.

After visiting Phuc Loc, lawyer Ramsey Clark said: [English fading into Vietnamese translation--recording] "Obviously, there can never be any justifications for what happened here at 0200. It is so senseless that modern technology is being used to destroy the lives of ordinary people. We must learn from these tragedies and strengthen the determination on the part of all people to end and prevent these tragedies. I have known journalist Anthony Lewis for many years and he wrote an article on Phuc Loc immediately after it was bombed. I fully agree with what he said."

The sight of the Ly Tu Tran first-grade general education school in Ngo Quyen ward, Haiphong, stirred the emotions of delegation members and domestic and foreign journalists. The beautiful school compound was completely destroyed by U.S. bombs. The walls collapsed, the roof was blown off and bricks and tiles were reduced to rubble. This was a "military target" that Nixon's Phantoms, equipped with guided bombs, hit "very accurately." The U.S. aggressors struck at the "emulate in teaching and learning well" slogan inscribed on the walls and at the "Respect for teachers, affection toward friends and assiduously study and work" slogan and the five teachings by Uncle Ho displayed in the classrooms. Members of the delegation tried to thoroughly understand and took pictures of all these words that were inscribed by small hands and reflected man's finest moral virtues. Members of the delegation also collected all torn maps, posters, certificates of commendation and textbooks buried in the ruins and carefully took notes and pictures of all of the vestiges of crimes against youth, culture, morality and mankind's future and civilization.

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Mr Yves Lacoste said: This is a very sorrowful and emotional scene. Mrs (?Ina Kokeshnikova) picked up a torn reading book soaked with water, turned its pages and looked at the pictures. Sighing, she said: According the denunciations by Mr Hoang Thao, director of the Haiphong cultural affairs service, this was not the only school that was raided. The Thai Phien, Tran Van On, Da Nang and Vo Thi Sau schools were also raided. Hundreds of pupils and teachers were killed or wounded.

After visiting the Ly Tu Trong school, the delegation visited the kindergarten in the Cau Tre resettlement center where they visited the shelter in which woman teacher Thuy and eight kindergarten pupils were killed by U.S. bombs on 16 April.

The targets of Nixon's airstrikes also included schools and hospitals, such as the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia hospital, the hospital in Hong Bang ward, the (Gia Nui Han) hospital and the Thuy San and (Duong Han) dispensaries.

The delegation took a close look at the destruction caused by U.S. bombing of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia hospital. An operating room was bombed while victims of U.S. bombing were being operated on. Many other departments of the hospital were heavily damaged. What happened at the Hong Bang hospital? U.S. bombs blew up the mortuary and completely destroyed the intensive care rooms on the ground floor and all of the patients' rooms on the first floor.

At the Haiphong museum, after seeing samples of various types of weapons used by the U.S. aggressors to commit crimes in Haiphong, lawyer Ramsey Clark said: [read by announcer] "I have seen perforation and smart bombs used in the raids on Haiphong. These bombs were not produced until April and May. So, it is not true that bombs on U.S. aircraft carriers were in short supply. They intentionally produced these new weapons to kill civilians. While in Haiphong I have witnessed the losses sustained by civilians."

Finally, before ending the visit that the delegation made to the Haiphong area to collect data on U.S. crimes against Vietnam, lawyer Ramsey Clark expressed his feelings, saying: [read by announcer] "I have seen the strength of the people here. I have visited the devastated areas. The scenes of destruction are horrible. Despite this, I think no bombs and shells can undermine the spirit of the Haiphong people. Right now I have observed that the Haiphong people are courageously rebuilding their city."

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN CONDEMNS NIXON'S BOMBING POLICIES

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[6 August QUAN DOI NHAN DAN review]

[Excerpt] On page four, the paper published an article under the headline, "Round-about Denials Cannot Hide Crimes," condemning the Nixon clique for relentlessly bombing the dike system in the north.

The article said: Faced with the waves of indignation and protests of the world and American people, Nixon recently publicized a document: "North Vietnam and the Question of Bombing Dikes." In this document Nixon admitted his crimes. However he also tried to fool public opinion and justify his attacks on our dikes and dams.